

Message Text

SECRET

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42

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 DODE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 EB-11 OMB-01

FEA-02 ACDA-19 /145 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:LTC RTHOMPSON

APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:EJSTREAT R

EUR/CE:HWILGIS

PM/ISP:LBROWN

EUR/NE:CFLOYD

EUR/RPM:WROMINE/AFLOYD

OASD/PA:COL EDWARDS

OASD/ISA:BG LOBDELL

JCS/J-5:BG CHRISTENSEN (INFO)

----- 121100

P R 211404Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

INFO USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

USDEL MC

CINCLANT

S E C R E T STATE 034455

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, NATO, US

SUBJECT: CRESTED CAP 74

REF: (A) STATE 27028; (B) BONN 2460; (C) LONDON 2173

1. IN EXAMINING CRESTED CAP REDUCTION ALTERNATIVES,
WE CONSIDERED SEVERAL COMBINATIONS OF NUMBERS OF
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PARTICIPATING F-4S AGAINST VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBERS

OF IN THEATER SORTIES THEY FLY AND THE LENGTH OF THEIR STAY IN EUROPE. WE CONCLUDED THAT TWO SQUADRONS DEPLOYED IN SUCCESSION ARE MAXIMUM WE CAN SUPPORT UNDER EXISTING FUEL CONSTRAINTS AND, AT THE SAME TIME, ACHIEVE MAXIMUM TRAINING FOR FUEL EXPENDED WHILE OBTAINING DESIRED OPTICAL IMPACT FOR CRESTED CAP.

2. WE CALCULATE THAT OUR PLAN TO DEPLOY TWO SQUADRONS IN SUCCESSION WILL REQUIRE 19 MILITARY AIRLIFT FLIGHTS WHEREAS THE BONN SUGGESTION (REF B) WITHOUT PHASING WOULD REQUIRE 38 FLIGHTS. THESE ADDITIONAL AIRLIFT FLIGHTS WOULD CONSUME 917,700 GALLONS OF FUEL. IF BOTH SQUADRONS REMAIN IN THEATER THE WHOLE 60 DAYS AND INCREASE THEIR SORTIES AS SUGGESTED BY BONN, WE CALCULATE IN THEATER FUEL CONSUMPTION WOULD INCREASE BY 1,018,000 GALLONS.

3. FOR BONN: YOU SHOULD INFORM THE FRG THAT WE HAVE

GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO THEIR SUGGESTION. WHILE WE APPRECIATE THE MANY ADVANTAGES OF THEIR PROPOSAL, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THESE ADVANTAGES WARRANT INCREASING CRESTED CAP FUEL CONSUMPTION BY 1.936 MILLION GALLONS OVER OUR PREVIOUS PLAN (REF A). WE CONTINUE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR SQUEEZING MAXIMUM TRAINING OUT OF REDUCED CRESTED CAP AND WOULD WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR INCREASING OPTICAL IMPACT OF EXERCISE. HOWEVER, UNLESS THE FRG IS WILLING TO REPLACE IN KIND THE ADDITIONAL 1.936 MILLION GALLONS THEIR PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE, YOU SHOULD INFORM THEM THAT WE MUST REDUCE CRESTED CAP AS DESCRIBED IN REF A. PLEASE NOTIFY SOONEST IF FRG CAN REPLACE IN KIND.

4. FOR LONDON: BRITISH HAVE GOOD POINT ON AVOIDING QUOTE ONE TIME END QUOTE LABEL FOR REDUCTION AND WE WILL HANDLE PUBLIC STATEMENTS ACCORDINGLY.

5. FOR LONDON AND USNATO: UPON RECEIPT OF BONN REPLY TO PARA 3 ABOVE, YOU SHOULD INFORM HMG AND DPC THAT WE WILL CONDUCT CRESTED CAP 74 FROM MARCH 6 TO
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MAY 3. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE FUEL SITUATION WE HAVE DECIDED, IN CONSULTATION WITH UK AND FRG, TO REDUCE LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION TO THAT DESCRIBED IN REF A OR REF B AS APPROPRIATE.

RUSH

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NNN

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